

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 ACDA-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 NSF-01 L-03

/061 R

DRAFTED BY OES/ENP/EN:KING;JENSEN;OES/ATP/SA:MORRIS

APPROVED BY OES/ENP/EN:LGRANT

EA/RA:LMCNUTT

NOAA/IA:NJOHNSON

IO/SCT:JPTREVITHICK

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P R 082234Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

CINCPACREP/TTPI GUAM

CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, JA

SUBJECT: IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECT STORMFURY

1. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, IT HAS BEEN OUR HOPE THAT IT WILL
BE POSSIBLE TO MOVE PROJECT STORMFURY TO THE PACIFIC IF
THERE IS NO OBJECTION FROM ANY OF THE AFFECTED COUNTRIES

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AND TERRITORIES. IN LIGHT OF THE ISSUES WHICH THE GOJ HAS
RAISED IN THE PAST OVER THIS EXPERIMENT, WE ARE ATTEMPTING
TO WORK OUT A PLAN TO INVOLVE INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION.
WHILE THE DAY-TO-DAY OPERATIONAL CONDUCT OF THE EXPERIMENT

WOULD, UNDER THIS PLAN, REMAIN WITH THE U.S., THE PROPOSAL ALLOWS FOR AMPLE INPUT BY THE INTERESTED COUNTRIES. WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO OPERATE UNDER PREDETERMINED INTERNATIONAL GUIDELINES, PROVIDING THAT THE SCIENTIFIC INTEGRITY AND FEASIBILITY OF THIS EXPERIMENT IS MAINTAINED.

2. INITIALLY, WE WOULD SUGGEST OPENING UP BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH THE JAPANESE IN ORDER TO EXPLORE RELEVANT ISSUES AND A TENTATIVE BASIS FOR PROCEEDING WITH STORMFURY. WE WOULD BE PREPARED ALSO TO SUGGEST THAT AN INTERNATIONAL POLICY ADVISORY BOARD (IPAB) BE ESTABLISHED FOR EXAMPLE, UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE ESCAP/WMO TYPHOON COMMITTEE, TO DEVELOP THE TECHNICAL AND POLICY GUIDELINES FOR THE CONDUCT

OF STORMFURY. (FYI: SUCH A SUGGESTION WAS RAISED IN THE WHITE TO MOHRI LETTER OF 2 JULY SENT THROUGH THE SCIATT AND MARKED PERSONAL. END FYI) SOME OF THE AREAS WHICH WE BELIEVE AN IPAB COULD CONSIDER WOULD BE:

A. STORM SELECTION CRITERIA, I.E., WHICH TYPHOONS CAN BE SEEDED AND IN WHAT LOCATION. IN OUR EARLIER PLANNING WE HAD PROPOSED THAT SEEDING BE LIMITED TO THOSE STORMS WHOSE FORECAST MOVEMENT WOULD NOT PLACE THE STORM CENTER WITHIN 100 NAUTICAL MILES OF POPULATED LAND AREAS WITHIN 24 HOURS AFTER SEEDING.

B. DESIGNATION OF FORECAST RESPONSIBILITY; WHICH FORECAST PRODUCTS FROM WHICH ORGANIZATIONS WOULD BE USED AS A BASIS FOR MAKING STORM SELECTION. IN THIS CONNECTION WE BELIEVE GUAM ADVISORIES COULD BE THE PRIMARY SOURCE, BUT OTHER FORECASTS, SUCH AS THOSE OF THE JAPANESE METEOROLOGICAL AGENCY, WOULD BE MOST USEFUL.

C. PARTICIPATION BY OTHER NATIONS AND THEIR RESOURCES; AIRCRAFT, OPERATING BASES, AND SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL. THROUGHOUT THE EXPERIMENT WE WOULD WELCOME INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION.
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D. MONITORING OF SEEDING VS. NON-SEEDING MISSIONS. SINCE FLIGHTS WOULD BE CONDUCTED INTO STORMS THAT DO NOT SATISFY THE CRITERIA FOR SEEDING TO MAKE METEOROLOGICAL MEASUREMENTS, WE WOULD EXPECT TO DEVELOP PROCEDURES INVOLVING PARTICIPATING SCIENTISTS FOR MONITORING THESE NON-SEEDING EVENTS TO ENSURE THAT NO SEEDING DOES OCCUR.

E. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEASURING SEEDING EFFECTS AND EVALUATION OF BEHAVIOR OF SEEDED STORMS. THE TECHNICAL DESCRIPTION OF STORMFURY (SEE A-5046 DATED 20 JUNE 1974) HAS A LISTING OF THE INSTRUMENTATION WHICH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR MEASUREMENT PURPOSES.

F. INFORMATION FLOW OF DATA AND REPORTS PRIOR TO, DURING, AND FOLLOWING FIELD EXPERIMENT. AS WE SEE IT, INFORMATION ON EXPERIMENTAL ACTIVITIES WILL BE OPEN TO ALL COUNTRIES AND AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESS. REPORTS WILL BE MADE IN THE OPEN SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE. IT IS ALSO THE INTENTION OF THE USG TO MAKE ALL OF ITS DATA AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, SOME OF THE INFORMATION MAY BE SO VOLUMINOUS THAT REPRODUCTION COSTS MAY BE REQUIRED OF THE REQUESTING COUNTRY.

3. UNLESS IT PERCEIVES OVERRIDING OBJECTIONS, EMBASSY SHOULD DISCUSS WITH FOREIGN OFFICE PROPOSAL OUTLINED ABOVE. IF THE GOJ BELIEVES THIS IS A USEFUL APPROACH, WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO JAPAN OR TO MEET IN WASHINGTON IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO EXPLORE ISSUES BILATERALLY. ASSUMING A FAVORABLE OUTCOME, WE WOULD THEN INITIATE DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER INTERESTED COUNTRIES IN THE AREA AND PREPARE FOR ESCAP/WMO TYPHOON COMMITTEE DISCUSSIONS TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES.

4. BECAUSE OF THE LONG-TERM PLANNING INVOLVED IN ANY TRANSFER OF STORMFURY, ESPECIALLY UNDER INTERNATIONAL GUIDANCE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY RESPONSE FROM THE GOJ. BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES INVOLVED WILL ALSO HAVE TO BE UNDERTAKEN IF THERE IS TO BE CONSIDERATION AT ESCAP/WMO MEETING IN NOVEMBER. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, RESEARCH, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), STORMS, WEATHER STATIONS, NATURAL DISASTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE188235
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OES/ENP/EN:KING:JENSEN;OES/ATP/SA:MORRIS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750275-0152
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197508100/baaaarny.tel
Line Count: 138
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 JUN 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: SENV, JA, US
To: TOKYO INFO GENEVA
MANILA
BANGKOK
SEOUL
TAIPEI

LONDON
HONG KONG
PEKING
CINCPACREP TTPI GUAM
CINCPAC

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006